



RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE OFFICE OF HONOR AND ECCLESIASTICAL LEADERS

I. BYU–Hawaii is sponsored by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints to provide a quality university education in an atmosphere that nurtures spiritual growth and a strong testimony of the divinity of Jesus Christ. To enhance Honor Code adherence and support among BYU–Hawaii students, the Office of Honor maintains a regular cooperative liaison with stake, ward, and other ecclesiastical leaders.

II. Fundamental to the accomplishment of the stewardship of the Office of Honor are ongoing vital relationships between the Office of Honor and ecclesiastical leaders, faculty, University units, and University administration. These appropriate interactions aid Office of Honor personnel to assist students, including those who have violated the Honor Code, and to support Office of Honor policies and procedures.

III. Confidential communication shared between an ecclesiastical leader and an individual student is privileged. Therefore, students may confide their participation in violations of the Honor Code to their ecclesiastical leaders without fear of any report to the Office of Honor unless the leader deems the student to be dangerous to the University community. As ecclesiastical leaders support their students in the development of spiritual understanding and personal responsibility, they may consult with Office of Honor personnel regarding University policies and procedures. When a student's endorsement is revoked or the student is placed on formal probation, disfellowshipped, excommunicated, or becomes disaffiliated from The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, the bishop and/or stake president are required to convey that change of status in writing to the Office of Honor. In turn, the Office of Honor informs students of any actions taken related to their University status.

IV. Relationship Between Campus Officials and Ecclesiastical Officers Policy

A. BYU–Hawaii is sponsored and directed by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints for the purpose of providing educational opportunities in an environment consistent with the values and standards of the Church. Therefore an applicant is admitted to BYU–Hawaii upon certification from his/ her bishop/ecclesiastical leader that the applicant has been and is now abiding by the values and standards of the LDS Church and will, in the opinion of the bishop/ecclesiastical leader, continue to do so. In order to accomplish this objective, all prospective LDS applicants must participate in a thorough and detailed interview conducted by his/her bishop and stake president. A non-LDS applicant will be interviewed by his/her ecclesiastical leader or by the BYU– Hawaii chaplain.

In this interview, each item of the BYU–Hawaii Honor Code and Dress and Grooming Standards should be discussed in detail. The Church and the University work closely together with LDS students involved in serious, moral transgressions. Students with moral problems who are allowed to remain at the University will be placed on university and/or ecclesiastical sanctions. The Office of Honor representative may request the bishop, university chaplain or other designated university official to work with non-LDS students if the student gives permission to do so.

B. Starting in April, all students who plan to continue their enrollment the following Fall Semester are required to have a continuing ecclesiastical endorsement (CEE). LDS students obtain their endorsements from their Winter Semester bishop and non-LDS students from the campus bishop or the university chaplain where they reside. The purpose of this endorsement is to determine whether or not the student has maintained his/her commitment to the BYU–Hawaii Honor Code including Dress and Grooming Standards and, in the case of LDS members, if they are temple worthy. Based upon the CEE interview and the interviewer’s knowledge of the conduct of the student, the interviewer certifies to the University that the student is eligible to continue at BYU–Hawaii. The student’s CEE may be withdrawn at any time during the school year if the bishop/ecclesiastical authority, in whose unit the student resides, determines that the student has not maintained his/her commitment to the Honor Code.

C. Withdrawn Ecclesiastical Endorsement. A student’s endorsement may be withdrawn at any time if the ecclesiastical leader determines that the student is no longer worthy. Students without endorsements, except in unusual circumstances, must discontinue enrollment. Disfellowshipment, excommunication, or disaffiliation from The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will automatically result in the withdrawal of the student’s endorsement. The decision to withdraw an endorsement may be appealed through the appropriate ecclesiastical channels. On rare and unusual circumstances, a student whose endorsement has been withdrawn, may appeal the date of discontinuance through the University’s administrative review process. Formal Probation. At any time when a student is placed on formal probation, after notification to the stake president, the bishop should immediately inform the Office of Honor. In cases where the bishop and stake president recommend that the student remain in school, the Office of Honor will verify that a plan with a timeline has been developed whereby the student will return to full compliance with the conditions of ecclesiastical endorsement and the Honor Code. Near the completion of the time indicated, the Office of Honor will confirm that the student is in full compliance. If it is necessary to extend the timeline the Office of Honor will determine the university’s position regarding the Honor Code violation, after reviewing the situation. The priesthood leaders and the student will be notified of the findings. Students may appeal the decision of the Office of Honor to the V.P. of Student Services and Development.

D. Upon receiving written consent from the student, the Advisor of the Office of Honor, Director of Student Leadership and Honor, and the Vice-President of Student Development and Services may communicate confidential and privileged information with the student’s bishop/ecclesiastical leader and/or advise the student’s bishop/ecclesiastical leader of disciplinary action taken by the university regarding the student’s status at the University.